

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

MARCH 6, 2000

What's Inside



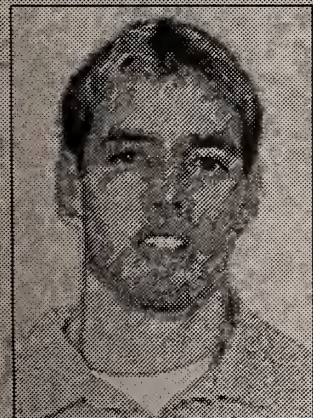
Talking sex with Sue Johanson.

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Kid Koala tears up the music scene.

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Hockey players make the grade.

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COMMENTARY
Page 4
Accident scene decorum

Accident a valuable lesson

By Donna Ryves

Students spent Feb. 15's cold afternoon re-enacting an accident scene on campus organized by the law and security administration/police foundations program.

The scenario was based on a real accident that happened at a local university 10 years ago. Its purpose was to give LASA/police foundations students' hands-on experience in their fields.

"This has been conceptualized for 30 years," says Don Douglas, program co-ordinator for LASA/police foundations, who added a lot of planning was required to stage the scenario.

About 1,000 people were involved including faculty, staff and students from the college's recreation centre, print shop, security services, health sciences, journalism program, paramedics program and grounds crew.

The Waterloo regional police also took part and have been working with LASA/police foundations students throughout the semester to prepare them for the investigation situation.

"They act as resource personnel and mentors, they will be evaluating what the students do," says Douglas.

The re-enactment involved the "deceased" and the "victim" crashing a motorcycle after a few drinks at the Roost.

Kerry Druar, a second-year LASA/police foundations student, played the victim. Greg Brimblecomb, a part-time faculty in continuing education, played the deceased.

The actors started the scenario with a couple of pints at the Roost. The bartender was instructed to cut them off. "My friends sort of volunteered me because they heard I could drink the most," said Druar.

After Druar and Brimblecomb had makeup applied and their snowsuits zipped up, they were properly positioned in the snow for the investigation to start. Then the "first witness" arrived followed by the "first officer on the scene," and then security.

"It was exciting and fun and a bit nerve-racking all at once," said Mike Turnbull, a LASA/police foundations student, who was the first investigating officer on the scene. "I learned police work can be pretty stressful, even in a mock accident situation such as the one in



Two female LASA/police foundations students investigate a mock accident scene while waiting for the paramedics. For more photos see pages 6 and 7.

(Photo by Donna Ryves)

the scenario. There are a lot of things that can't be taught, which must be learned through experience."

"Procedures follow what would normally take place at the college," said Douglas. He explained the scenario was conducted as realistically as possible.

Students paired with police officers were dispatched to the scene. They used yellow caution tape to restrict the area to stop bystanders, the media and anyone else who would be prohibited at a real accident scene. Security provided safety vests and barricades.

"There are a lot of lessons to be learned, it's good for real-life application," said Al Hunter, supervisor of security services at Conestoga College.

Hunter volunteered to be the coroner for the scenario. His job was to pronounce the one victim dead at the accident scene.

"When you've been to a dozen scenes, you become familiar with things," said Hunter. He said the students did pretty well in performing their jobs.

Journalism students played aggressive members of the media to provide LASA/police foundations students with a realistic opportunity to learn how to control the media at an accident scene.

"In total I thought it was a good experience for how journalists should act," said Laura Czekaj, a second-year journalism student.

"It was nice to be able to practise our skills in an actual, almost real-life scenario. It was interesting to see how the police operate and control the scene," said Mike Martin, a second-year paramedic student. "I still need more practice, I felt prepared enough for this accident but I'll feel more comfortable when I have more practice and experience."

Students from the paramedics program treated the accident victims at the scene. They also supplied the ambulance, stretcher, blankets, the simulation dummy and other supplies.

"For my own students, the unknowns presented, unintentional or not, are a great learning experience," said Bob Mahood, paramedics program co-ordinator. Health Sciences set up an "emergency room" for the victim in the nursing wing on campus, which allowed the paramedic students to follow up with proper care, said Mahood. The exercise also permitted LASA/police foundations students to do legal interviewing and testing. As part of the exercise, the victim had to take a breathalyser test.

"Things don't need to run

smoothly and the biggest benefit is having to make alternative decisions," said Mahood. "Usually people measure success by how well things go, I think you learn more by how things don't go."

The exercise is described as problem-based training, said Douglas.

"It is based after the RCMP model in Regina, but they don't go through this much trouble," he said.

The biggest concern was giving the students the skills needed, said Cameron Veitch, part-time faculty with LASA/police foundations. Veitch explained the students are taught theory, but until they are out experiencing it for themselves, they won't know what it's like.

"It was very overwhelming for a time after arriving at the mock accident," said Mike Turnbull, who was the first officer on the scene. "There was a lot to take in and a lot going through your mind as everything you've learned over the past three semesters came together in one scenario."

Faculty involved in the mock accident met the week of Feb. 21 to discuss the scenario.

Several exercises are to follow including a criminal trial, coroner's inquest, a civil trial and a critique that will be conducted through to the end of April.

Woodworkers carving careers

By Ray Bowe

The Ontario woodworking apprenticeship contest was held on Feb. 11 at the Woodworking Centre of Ontario located at Conestoga's Doon campus.

The event was sponsored by the Architectural Woodworking Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC) and Ryobi power tools.

Fourteen skilled woodworking apprentices and technicians took part in the competition.

Each entrant was asked to build a cabinet with specific dimensions. The competitors were given the blueprints a week before the contest to allow for planning.

Contestants were allowed to bring in their own tools but had to use the wood provided which was largely composed of oddly cut pieces.

Cabinets were judged at the end of the day by a panel of industry experts including chief judge Bob Rollings, Syd Thompson, Martin Grinwis of Conestoga faculty and



An awards ceremony was held at the Woodworking Centre on Feb. 17. Among the award winners were from left to right: Jody Wyman, first place; Greg McFarland, second place; Victor Maurice and Don MacKay, co-winners for third place for a cabinet-building contest. (Photo by Ray Bowe)

Hans Cullman and Dick Stronik from the AWMAC education committee.

The winning contestant in the AWMAC contest was Jody Wyman. He received an award plaque, a letter of recognition from AWMAC and a gift certificate from Lee Valley Tools.

The winning cabinet will now

be entered in the national AWMAC competition scheduled for the middle of April. The national champion wins a free trip to AWMAC's annual convention to be held in Banff from May 31 to June 3.

"AWMAC promotes quality in the trade and education," said Rollings.

Other prizes included \$500 from 3M Canada, a Ryobi power tool and \$200 from Lee Valley Tools.

"We have nine hours to build a cabinet starting from scratch using oversized wood," said AWMAC second-place winner Greg McFarland, 21.

McFarland won a Ryobi drill and \$250 for the Architectural

Millworkers of Ontario award.

Except for a 15-minute lunch break, the cabinet-makers worked for nine hours straight.

According to Conestoga's public affairs office, the woodworking centre is "the province's pre-eminent site for wood products education, combining both traditional methods and the most modern, computerized and advanced technology processes."

Ryobi tools brought in power tools to be used in the contest which were subsequently donated to the woodworking program.

Event organizer Allan Sparling said in a press release, "This is a friendly competition designed to both challenge and reward the participants."

Other winners were Tim Scholman, who was awarded \$250 for the S.C. Johnson and Son award and \$1,000 for the Store Image Programs Inc. scholarship, and Don MacKay who received the Peter Findlay Materials bursary of \$500 and also shared third place in the AWMAC cabinet contest.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Final Exams

Whether to panic or to prepare. Whether to sulk or to study. Whether to become enlightened or to remain in the dark, hoping for the best. How you use your time and energy is up to you and will determine your level of success or failure.

To go into the exam period with your eyes wide open, you need to know:

- how many exams you have and in which subjects;
- when, where and for how long they are scheduled;
- what material will be covered with emphasis on which areas;
- what format the exam will have (multiple choice, essay, short answer);
- what percentage of your final mark the exam covers.

About three weeks before exams start, mark the times and locations of each exam on a calendar. For each course, list what you need to study and the sources you will use (textbook, class notes, lab assignments). Estimate the amount of study time you will need and indicate study periods on the calendar. By planning ahead, you know you will have time for each subject.

Use all sources of help available to you: old exams, classmates, study groups, class review time, text notes or highlighted sections, text summaries and chapter questions. Ask your faculty for help and information about the exam.

Avoid common mistakes:

- overstudying for the first exam and running out of time and energy for the others;
- working hard for the course(s) you like and neglecting others;
- not starting early enough, leaving too little time during exam week.

If you would like assistance in preparing for final exams, come to the Student Services office, or attend one of our workshops:

"Preparing for Final Exams" workshop

Message from Student Services (Room 2B02)

Faculty deals with confrontation

By Talisha Matheson

Two professors from Sault College in Sault St. Marie will hold two seminars entitled Confrontation Skills Training for Conestoga faculty members and all college employees who have to deal with problematic issues Feb. 28 and 29.

According to Edith Torbay, chair of professional development, the workshop focuses on students and dealing with prob-

lems and disagreements.

She said the purpose of the workshop is to decide how conversations can be structured in a way that an issue can be dealt with without hostility.

"If a teacher knows a student has failed a course or exam, he or she won't say 'by the way you failed.' He or she would find a simple way to break it to the student," Torbay said in an example.

She said people are inclined to

get angry easier now than they were in the past.

"People have to be careful about how they deal with others in difficult situations," Torbay said.

Jeff Arbus and Sandy MacDonald, professors at Sault College, said they will present a 10-step model for faculty and college employees to follow for the successful managing of complex situations.

"It has been well received by teachers and other professionals," said Arbus. "It gives them a structured format for managing various types of confrontations and is logical and systematic."

Arbus added the model provides guidance in situations, which often become emotionally charged.

He said the model has been presented to college and university faculty, support staff and administration in various locations throughout North America and Scotland.

Outside the education sector, Arbus and MacDonald have delivered training to social workers, welfare caseworkers and youth workers.

Neither Arbus nor McDonald have been directly involved in violent incidents with students, but they have received threats.

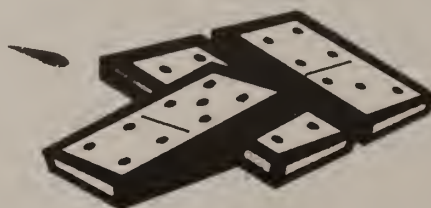
"It is our hope that this model could act as a prevention tool to minimize the chance of an incident becoming violent," said Arbus.

He said there are limits to any model and they do not suggest that one model is suitable for all situations, but they will discuss those limits in the workshop.

Dominoes Tournament

Mar 6 to Mar 8

in the sanctuary



Sign up TODAY in the  office

Grads find related employment

By Nicole Furlong

Approximately 97 per cent of health sciences and community services graduates found related employment within six months of graduation from the 1997 personal support worker program at Conestoga College's Waterloo campus.

The personal support worker program has been running since the fall 1997 and according to the program chairperson, Nancy Hacking, it is very successful as personal support workers are in high demand.

"The personal support worker field is certainly a field where there are multiple opportunities for employment," she said.

Although there has been a province-wide decrease in the intake for February 2000, the program's retention rate sits at 93 per cent.

The 16-week course is offered every February and September and prepares students to provide knowledge and skills to assist clients of all ages with the activities of daily living.

Hacking said the students are prepared to provide supportive care in terms of personal care in a home or institutional setting.

Like many Conestoga programs, students take theory in a lab setting but also delve into a clinical placement only two weeks into the program.

Hacking said about 55 to 60 per cent of students choose to work in an institutional setting compared to about 45 per cent choosing a home setting.

"Students tend to gravitate to the institutional work because it offers regular full-time hours, security and higher pay," she said.

A personal support worker who chooses to develop his/her practice out of homes risks unstable hours and clientele as well as less pay.

Hacking added the pay personal support workers receive is being reviewed provincially as it is not equitable now.

The program outline emphasizes the fact that personal support workers are able to contribute to the quality of life of

individuals by promoting their independence, dignity, emotional and physical needs, mobility, personal appearance, comfort and safety.

Admission to the program, which began on Feb. 7, requires students to have an Ontario Secondary School diploma, standard first-aid certificate, basic CPR certification, updated health records and a criminal record search for students who are interested in the home-care aspect of the program.

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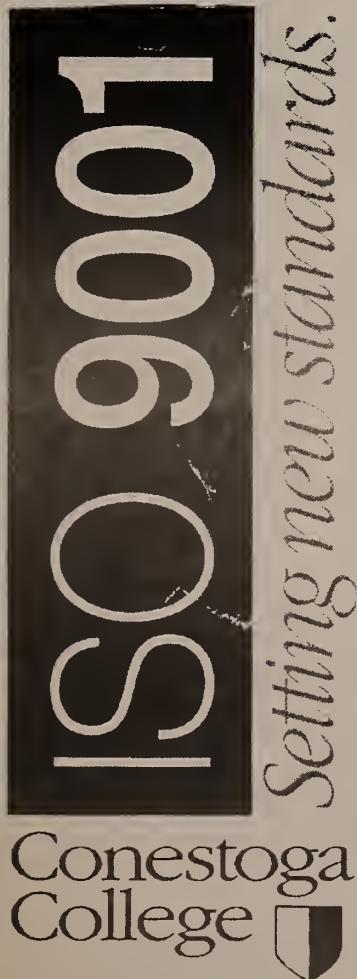
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Conestoga College

Movie of the Week
In the Sanctuary
Fri. Mar. 10  12:30pm

Thank you for your support ISO Team Student Services



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Special students are short-changed on funding

On Jan. 27, the Ontario government announced an increase of \$40 million in secondary and elementary school special education funding.

Special education has been chronically underfunded. Cutting money from education hurts everyone affected, especially students with learning disabilities.

Earl Manners, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, said in a press release that the Ontario government admitted last summer there were problems with funding for special needs students. It took them another six months to address the problem, while at the same time, programs for special needs students have been slashed.

The funding announced Jan. 27 won't be funnelled into school boards until September 2000.

Here at Conestoga College, special needs services is having problems getting updated psycho-educational assessments of students with learning disabilities when they come to college because no money is provided for them.

These assessments are necessary to fulfil documentation required for students with specific learning disabilities so they can be properly assisted through special needs services.

Rick Casey, secondary school transition counsellor for special needs services, said because funding and resources have been cut in elementary and secondary schools, they haven't had the finances to help all of the students with disabilities.

School boards have lost their psychologists, so full-scale assessments aren't being done on students.

Most of elementary and secondary school's special needs counsellors' time is being spent on students who have severe behavioural challenges or developmental disorders, so doors are being closed on many other students who need help in other areas.

The main problem facing Conestoga's special needs services is that accurate assessments have not been completed within the last three years.

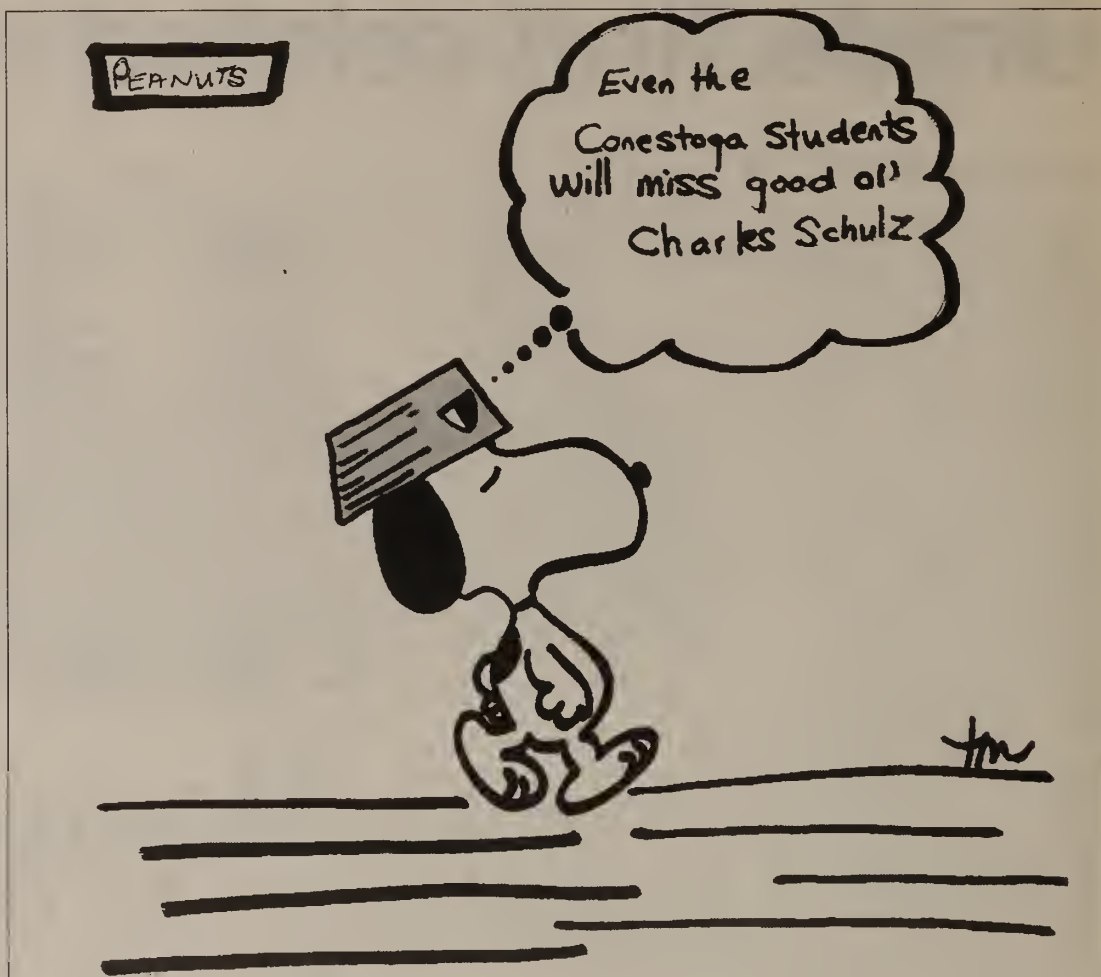
Most kids with learning disabilities are assessed in elementary school when they run into problems with reading, writing and math, but they aren't tested again. As a result students entering college have not been assessed recently.

Proper documentation is required to help Conestoga special needs services effectively accommodate a student's needs.

Without proper funding, students with special needs will not meet their potential.

Recent studies have shown the province's funding of special education may be too low. The \$40-million increase will help, but it does not address the cuts already made and most schools will still lose special education funding.

The provincial government needs to do more to fund special education.



Role-playing carried away

I went to an accident to learn more about my craft. I ended up getting a lesson about my rights.

Conestoga College's LASA/police foundations program staged a mock accident on Feb. 15 between parking Lots 11 and 12 next to the recreation centre.

Reporters from Spoke were asked to participate by role-playing the part of aggressive reporters and this I did with conviction.

At the accident scene I did everything a good reporter is entitled to do. I took photos and asked questions and I received the predictable cold shoulder from the police foundation students who were posing as police officers.

Until this point the mock accident was everything I had anticipated, however that all changed when something happened that I believe shouldn't have.

A mock police officer, who shall remain nameless, grabbed me and forcefully pushed me back. Granted, I was within the yellow tape, but legally I had every right to be where I was.

Staff Sgt. Matt Troigian of the Waterloo regional police deals with the media at accident scenes. He



Laura Czekaj

said officers allow reporters to come right up to the police tape and at times reporters are permitted to get even closer.

"Sometimes reporters can go within the yellow tape, depending on who the officer is and what the situation is," he said. "Up to the yellow tape is the minimum to where you can go."

Therefore, I had every right to stand within the yellow tape and since I complied with the officer's suggestion to move back, although admittedly slowly, this did not condone the excessive use of force that he exhibited while he was role-playing.

Don Douglas, program co-ordinator, LASA/police foundations, helped organize the mock accident and said the individual in question may have gotten carried away.

"Although the students were expected to protect the scene," he said, "I would have hoped the person had remained within the boundaries of safety."

Douglas also said the mock police officer might have been caught up in his role-playing and acted in an exaggerated manner.

Douglas was among the teachers from the LASA/police foundations program who questioned me during the accident as to why I had let myself be physically removed from the scene. Well the answer to that comes down to numbers, 180 pounds or more of officer versus

my measly 110 pounds.

Shortly after this episode, David met up with Goliath once again.

The two men, who had posed as the victims of the accident, left the scene and the yellow tape was coming down, so I went in for a closer look. At that moment, the same officer blocked my way and as he was politely asking me to move back, he was not so politely pushing me.

Police pushing a reporter is strictly forbidden, according to Troigian. Leading someone out of the area by the arm seems to be the acceptable method of removal.

It is also acceptable for the police to protect the evidence.

"If a reporter was trampling on a crime scene and an officer asked them to move back and they didn't, technically they could be arrested," said Troigian. "But that's a judgment call by the officer at the scene."

In my opinion the officer at the mock accident misjudged his limitations in the role of officer and got carried away.

Truthfully I admit to being persistent during the accident and in the officer's view I may have been a pain in the butt. However, if this accident had been real and this officer had shown so little restraint with me, rather than write a column, I would have slapped a lawsuit on him so fast he would have gotten whiplash.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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CBSA elects new executive council

By Tannis Fenton

The Conestoga Business Students Association (CBSA) elected its new executive council members for the 2000/2001 school year Feb. 10.

Anne Tailleir, a first-year marketing student who was elected CBSA president, initially intended to run for vice-president.

When Lisa Cashmore, CBSA president, and Katie Henhoeffler, CBSA vice-president, approached Tailleir about running for president, she changed her mind.

"Their encouragement and enthusiasm for me instantly made me want to be the best

president I could be," Tailleir said, adding she intended to run for CBSA president in her third year of school.

Tailleir said she hopes to accomplish a lot with the CBSA, including communicating more frequently with the Doon Student Association and non-business students, creating new fund-raising techniques and keeping the CBSA Web page updated and organized.

"I have many great ideas and plan to expand on the previous years' ideas as well," she said.

Joe Bentley, a first-year computer programmer analyst student, was elected CBSA vice-president.

He said he got involved with the CBSA because he enjoys tackling leadership positions and has time during the week to improve the CBSA.

"One of the first problems I hope to tackle is improving the communication flow between the CBSA and the various classes," Bentley said.

Sue Carpani, a second-year marketing student, was elected communication co-ordinator.

She wanted to be on the CBSA executive council to help business students interact with each other in order to learn more about business as a whole.

"I'm hoping to increase communication between the local business community and the students at Conestoga," Carpani said.

Randy Pelley, a first-year computer programmer analyst student, was elected computer liaison.

"During my term I hope to increase the CBSA's exposure to the students, the college and the world," he said. "To sum it up in a small blurb: exposure, exposure and more exposure."

Jeff Botter was elected promotions co-ordinator and Matthew Levert was elected treasurer.

They were unavailable for comment.

Non-traditional career scholarship offered Program offered for single moms

By Ray Bowe

A \$2,000 scholarship is being offered to women pursuing an education in a non-traditional female career.

An organization called Guelph Women In Networking, a group of female entrepreneurs and business women, wants to help female students set their pace for the new millennium and help women to reach their full potential.

The successful recipient of the award must be a full-time female college student currently enrolled in a program which is not recognized as a "traditional" career for women. The program must also be over 30 weeks in duration.

The applicants must be at least a third of the way through their studies and be a resident or student in Wellington County.

Applicants must provide two letters of recommendation, one being academic and the other being an employer or community service organization. Applicants must detail why they believe their course of study is non-traditional, their plans after graduation, as well as extracurricular and professional goals.

The scholarship applications can be picked up at the registrar's office located at Doon campus's Student/Client Services Building.

Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on March 15.

By Talisha Matheson

Focus for Change is a new program for single mothers being offered at Conestoga College's Cambridge campus.

The new program enables women to develop positive self-images, effective communication skills and an ability to manage school, work and home responsibilities along with other skills.

bilities along with other skills.

According to Dianne Murphy, group facilitator at Cambridge campus, there is a visible difference in the women when they first enter the program compared to when they leave. "The growth in these women is simply amazing," Murphy said.

Information sessions for the program are March 6 from 10 a.m. to

11:30 a.m. at 150 Main St., Cambridge, Room 222.

The second information session is March 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Employment Resource Centre, 73 Water St., Cambridge.

The program runs from April 3 to June 23.

For more information contact Dianne Murphy or Susan Garlick at 623-4890.

MULTIPLE CHOICE TEST-TAKING



MON. MARCH 6TH & MON. MARCH 13TH

12:30 - 1:30

ROOM 2D14

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- ♦ Multiple Choice test-taking strategies?
- ♦ Understanding how multiple choice tests are designed?
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Workshop Facilitator: Shawna Bernard

Please register in STUDENT SERVICES (ROOM 2B02) for the above workshops. If you are interested in a workshop but cannot attend at these times, please see Shawna Bernard, Student Services.

Movie Night *Fight Club* Club

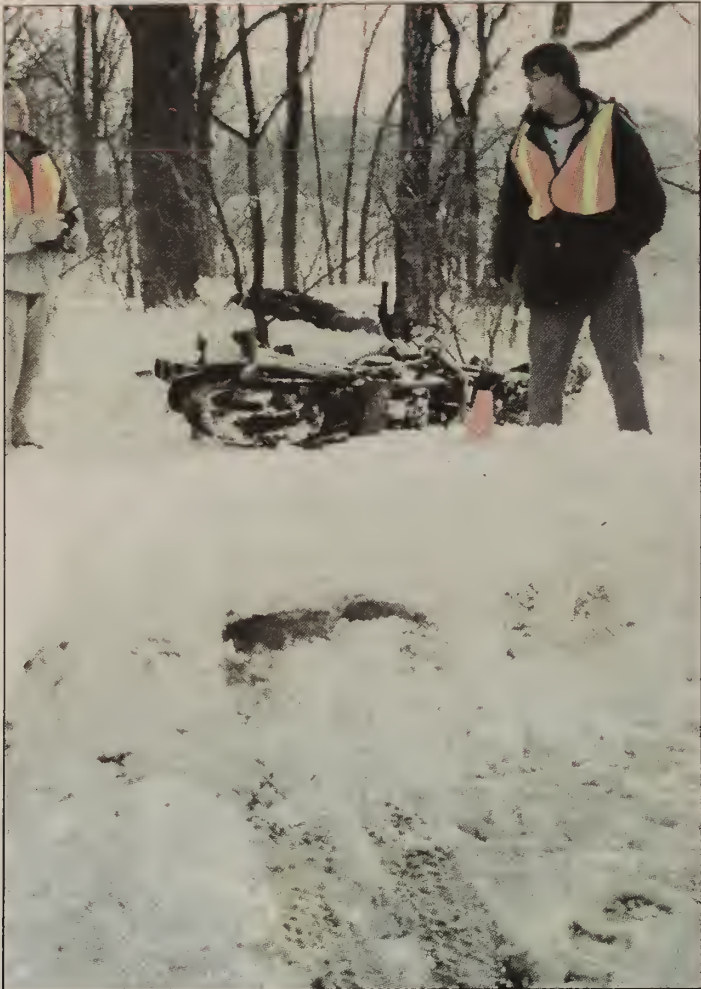
Brad Pitt and Edward Norton

Tues. March 14

8:00pm



Doon Students \$2
Guests \$4

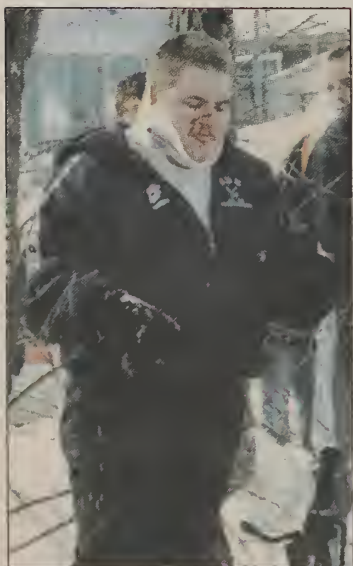


At left, LASA/police foundations students examine the tracks where a motorcycle lost control.
(Photo by Donna Ryves)

Above, paramedic students examine the accident victim.

(Photo by Talisha Matheson)

Conestoga students put to the test...



Above, Kerry Druar, a second year LASA/police foundations student, who played the part of a victim, takes a break during the mock accident scenario Feb. 15.

(Photo by Sherri Osment)

Right, Druar lies in the snow behind the recreation centre.
(Photo by Donna Ryves)

LASA/police foundations and journalism students gathered near the recreation centre Feb. 15 to take part in an accident scenario.

Students role-played various parts including police officers, college security, paramedics, reporters, photographers and accident victims.

The scenario was based on a real accident that happened at a local university 10 years ago.

The event was staged to give the students hands-on experience in their fields.



Above, a dummy lies in the snow representing a victim of the accident.

(Photo by Sherri Osment)



Above, Druar lays motionless on a gurney as he is carried to an ambulance.

(Photo by Talisha Matheson)

...at mock motorcycle accident



Left, paramedic students take Druar to the hospital.

(Photo by Walerian Czarnecki)

Above, Greg Brimblecomb, a part-time teacher in continuing education, gets his makeup applied by Bob Mahood, the paramedic program co-ordinator for the LASA/police foundations mock accident scenario.

(Photo by Donna Ryves)



Michelle Muia holds the precious gem dildo and Reta Craig, a representative of Fantasia, holds a beaded dolphin dildo at the Pub/Fantasia Party in the Sanctuary Feb. 14. These were just two of the many products that could be purchased. (Photo by Mike Radatus)

Kinky toys spice up love life

By Mike Radatus

The DSA held an adventure for lovers at their Fantasia party which offered some kinky toys to spice up your love life on Valentine's Day.

Reta Craig, a Fantasia consultant, did a show and tell explanation of the different toys, books, games and oils that can be purchased.

Craig said one of the most popular products is the pleasure balm, a potion containing a mild desensitizer.

She said it is so popular because most men only last about two minutes.

"The guys fall asleep and leave

the women with a wet spot, but if you put this on his erect penis he will last longer," Craig said.

The product is also good for headaches, cold sores and mosquito bites.

For those looking for a product to intensify both partners' love life, you can get sexciting cream.

Moments after application the vaginal walls begin to contract and tighten, intensifying both partners' pleasure.

Craig also had some toys for women that she said they shouldn't leave home without.

One toy she recommends is the hidden delights, a little silver vibrator with an expandable ring that goes around the man's penis.

Upon penetration the capsule stimulates both the woman's clitoris and the man's penis.

Other toys include the pink kangaroo, the beaded dolphin, the Ben Wa Balls, the precious gems and for-playing cards.

Craig said penis-shaped ice cube trays and cookie cutters that come in three sizes can also be purchased.

"They come in small, medium and large," she said.

Craig also organizes Fantasia parties in private homes for people 19 and older.

The parties do not cost the host anything to hold because Craig makes her money from the sale of products.

Sue Johanson answers sexual questions

By Mike Radatus

Sue Johanson says the scariest question she gets is whether it is OK to swallow ejaculation.

"It's scary because of the risk of HIV and AIDS," said Johanson who spoke in the Sanctuary Feb. 15.

Johanson, currently the star of Sex with Sue Johanson on WTN (the Women's Television Network) on Sundays, answers questions from viewers on sexuality.

Although she receives a variety of questions, she has a couple of questions that are more common than others.

The most popular question asked by female viewers is how they can reach an orgasm, while males most frequently ask how they can increase the size of their penis.

Johanson is a nurse by profession, however, she started her career teaching sex education in high schools.

She became interested in teaching sex to youths when she worked in a clinic and was an eyewitness to pregnant teens and teens with sexually transmitted diseases.

"It scared me that these kids were not sexually educated and were in abusive relationships, by that I don't mean physically so much as manipulative," she said.

Through working in high schools she gained a reputation in the media that she used to get involved in radio and television.

Johanson started on Q107 with her first sex show and later, in 1974, went to television on Rogers cable with Talk Sex.

During this period she has continued to speak in schools, mostly universities and college. Today she speaks at about 48 different colleges and universities across Canada each year.

This was the eighth time Johanson has come to Conestoga College and she said the crowd was the largest it has ever been.

During her visit to the college she touched on masturbation and explained how it is a natural behaviour for both men and women.

Johanson also talked about how it is more common for men to examine their genitals than women.

"Women have always been told that nice girls don't look at their genitals and that is wrong. Women should look at themselves," she said.

Johanson is also the author of three books, Talk Sex, Sex is Perfectly Natural, but not Naturally Perfect and Sex, Sex and More Sex.

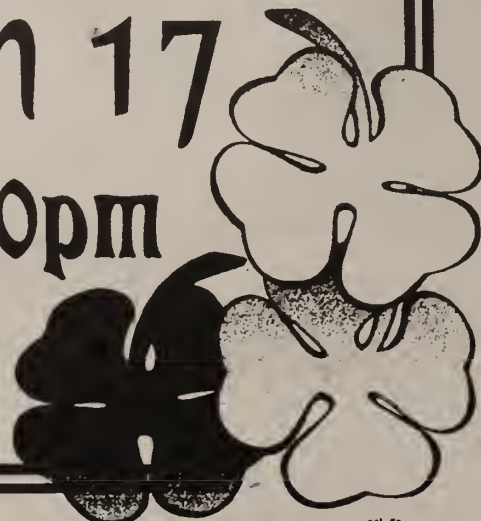
She is currently working on an upcoming book that has yet to be titled.

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Pitch Black leaves viewers in dark



By Donna Ryves

Things aren't always the way they seem, especially for the group of ill-fated space travellers who have to fight for their lives on a seemingly lifeless planet in the film Pitch Black.

A ship carrying passengers across the universe crashes on a sandy desert planet that has three suns.

It is always day on the planet with no sign of nightfall. However every 22 years there is an eclipse and the planet finds itself in complete darkness.

Pitch Black is a science-fiction film written and directed by David Twohy (Critters 2).

The cast is made up of relatively unknown actors.

They include Vin Diesel (The Iron Giant, Saving Private Ryan), Radha Mitchell (Love and Other Catastrophes) and Cole Hauser (Good Will Hunting, Dazed and Confused).

The survivors include the ship's pilot, Fry (Mitchell), who is the main female character.

At the beginning of the film she is challenged with the choice of killing the sleeping passengers or letting them plunge to their fate.

She has the combination of sex appeal and girl power on screen and is the strength of the group. In the end, she chooses whether to live or die for the others.

The officer Johns (Hauser), who is transporting a murderer, seems to be trustworthy and possesses



Vin Diesel gives depth to his character in Pitch Black.

(Internet photo)

leadership qualities. No one suspects him of being a drug addict.

He eventually sets the murderer free and is willing to let the others die.

He is left with the appropriate revenge in the end.

The murderer, Riddick (Diesel), is a sexy, bad-ass criminal with glassy eyes who reveals a surprising depth and quality in his character. He uses his physical

strength to help everyone escape.

The characters are stranded in a world full of hideous, biting, eerie creatures that avoid the suns but appear in flocks at night. They are hungry and feed off human flesh.

In essence, the plot of Pitch Black is the crew's struggle to escape.

The film is intense with con-

tinuous action, and there are a few interesting surprises along the way.

However the point of the movie is somewhat confusing.

The film loses credibility

because the beginning allows the people to live and then the writer kills off almost every character.

The movie has weak morals and in the end there was a sense of dissatisfaction.

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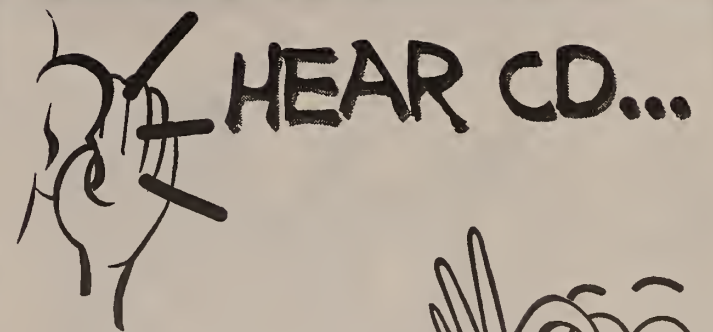
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Space explorers examine the remains of murderous creatures that have been bleached by the three suns of an alien planet.

(Internet photo)

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The Kid with wrists of fury

By Ray Bowe

If there were ever a true multimedia record, this is it. Kid Koala's new album, *Carpal Tunnel Syndrome*, features a comic book, a CD-ROM game and over 40 minutes of some of the wackiest scratching around.

"Some days I think this (record) is going to scare too many people, this is an evil thing," says Kid Koala, also known as Eric San. "But other days I'm thinking 'this is good.'"

One could easily concur that Kid Koala suffers from Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, an affliction that causes inflammation in the wrist joint. Some of the loops and breakdowns on the album are simply incredible.

Kid Koala barricaded himself in his home studio until the record was complete. "I treated the album as a healing process, trying to balance out my life. 'The sun is shining, you should go outside.' They had to keep sliding the food and water under the door. I must scratch!" exclaims the 25-year-old Montrealer.

He feeds off Montreal's constant energy. "Montreal's a really tiny city with a lot of energy. The scene is very supportive with a large, creative community. There's always something going on, but it's usually the same 400 people," he says jokingly.

The album was entirely hand-cut using a multi-track recorder and

turntables. "Everything you hear is scratched. Sometimes I listen to it and think maybe I should have used a sampler," he says with a boisterous chuckle. "If you hear a loop, it's actually two copies of the same record going back and forth. It doesn't have that hypnotic effect perfect loops have. It makes the record really hard to dance to."

What's more important the wacky sounds or the funky beats? "It's all symbiotic," says Kid Koala. "You can take a chicken and turn it into a beat if you want." And he did in *Like Irregular Chickens*.

The album was delayed because Kid Koala admits he didn't know how long it would take to record an album like this. "The most tedious and time-consuming part is just listening to thousands of records in their entirety trying to find the parts that jump out."

For example, in *Music for Morning People*, he had to find two copies of the same record which featured one of the main beats. It required numerous tour stops to obtain the elusive second copy.

Once all the records had been acquired, the album was meticulously planned and then laid down in the studio. "It's like trying to build a two-storey building out of Lego," he says, "not necessarily the most efficient way to record an album."

Kid Koala began to DJ at a very young age by cutting up his sister's 45s. He was later inspired by DJ legends Q-Bert and Mix Master Mike.

"When Q-Bert and (Mix Master) Mike did their routine in 1993 or 1994, that really moved me. The amount they were able to accomplish in a six-minute set was incredible, and 90 per cent of the stuff I'd never seen before. That opened a lot of doors. They were the first ones for me, that I thought 'this is going to change things



Kid Koala munches on some vinyl.

(Internet photo)

drastically.' That's the one pivotal moment for me," says the McGill University graduate, who has bachelor of education degree.

In the scratching industry, DJ battles are extremely important. Kid Koala, Montreal's DMC Mixing Champion in 1995, has battled on many occasions. However, he says the material on *Carpal Tunnel Syndrome* is not likely to make its way to the stage.

"When I went in to record this album, I just wanted to try to make something I could live with for a few years. When you go into competition, you pretty much have to show everything you've got in a short period of time, and that's the pressure you train for."

He considers himself retired from competition. "The album freed me up to try things I wouldn't try live," and vice versa. At live shows fans have the decibels blasting out of the speakers, the DJs going crazy on the cross-faders and visual effects everywhere.

Apart from his solo DJ efforts, Kid Koala also plays with a five-piece jazz band called Bullfrog. The band features bass, g

drums, percussion and Kid Koala on the turntables.

Kid Koala says he treats Bullfrog and his solo scratching equally. His job in Bullfrog is to blend everything together, which is no easy task. He finds himself "cracking his head open" when the band gives him the chords and changes and he has to find similar sounds on other records.

When asked if it was a different challenge, he replied "Very much, but I really enjoy it. My job is to keep the groove. There's also satisfaction from just being an integral part of the band." Bullfrog accompanies Kid Koala on the tracks *Naptime* and *Barhopper 2*.

The 30-page comic book featured with the album was done by Kid Koala while waiting for the record to be pressed. It took him six months to produce the comic.

"After nine hours on the decks, I just wanted to forget it (the album). I needed to do something that didn't involve ears, so I'd just start doodling on my drafting table."

He was quick to point out that the comic, about a DJ, was not autobiographical. He describes it as a "romantic-tragedy/action-adventure/family-coming-of-age reality check."

Kid Koala is proud of the record he has created. "I don't consider it the most developed scratch record there is. It's going to take me a couple of more albums to refine some things. It is what it is, which is me experimenting and trying to take it (scratching) into a couple of different areas. I wouldn't say it's convincing on all accounts. Some of them are just grooves, not songs. It's sort of like a journey. Some of it's just straight-up comedy. Some of it's quite evil and I had to counter that with silly stuff," he says.

Kid Koala will be attending a few CD release parties in February before starting to tour with Ninja Tune Records label-mates Amon Tobin and DJ Food, both of whom have new albums set for release. In March, July and August, Kid Koala will be touring Europe, and in May and June he will be touring Canada and the United States.

"I'm down to do shows all of the time," he says.



Kid Koala mixes it up at a live show.

(Internet photo)



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Foo Fighters mature on new CD

By Adam Wilson

After two successful albums and stepping out from the shadow of Nirvana, the Foo Fighters have released their most mature album to date.

The album, *There is Nothing Left to Lose*, is a mix of classic Foo Fighters-style music with fast-paced guitar riffs and drum beats, as well as a new pop sound, which is displayed in the first single from the album, *Learn to Fly*.

The album begins quickly and loudly with the song, *Stacked Actors*, which is rumoured to be about Hole singer, Courtney Love. This rumour can be somewhat supported by singer/guitarist Dave Grohl's lyrics as he sings about breast implants and crying about "when they all die blond."

Like the band's previous two albums, *Foo Fighters* and *Colour and the Shape*, there is a lot of influence from the "grunge" era.

Many of the songs have massive distortion. *Stacked Actors* is a good example with its buzzing bass guitar which sounds like an angered beehive.

The album is almost a perfect split right down the middle between "alternative" music and the next wave of pop sounds.

Songs like *Breakout*, *Generator* and *Headwires* all showcase the Foo Fighters at their best in terms of their previous two albums. Others like *Aurora* and *Live-In Skin* show a new side to the band, a side that wants to be a pop sensation.

One great feature Foo Fighters' fans can look forward to is Grohl's screaming, which is in almost every song and could

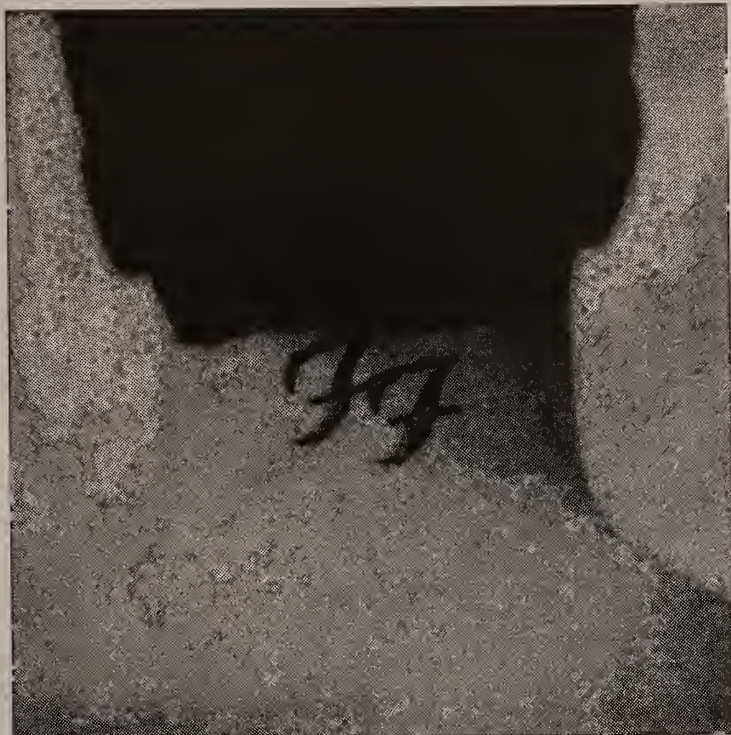
almost make Frank Black jealous.

All in all, Grohl and the Foo Fighters have done a lot of growing up in the last couple years. Having former guitarist Pat Smear leave the band probably took away some desire to play the driving, hard music the band used to play.

Grohl's songwriting seems to have matured as well. More songs

on this album have a serious side to them. The meanings to songs aren't as hidden as they were on songs like *February Stars* and

Everlong off *Colour and the Shape*. This album is not the best Foo Fighters album musically, but lyrically, it is their best release to date.



The Foo Fighters' new album is titled *Nothing Left to Lose*.

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Condors end of season report card

A hockey roundup of how team members played this season



Longarini

By Nicole Furlong

The Conestoga Condors' varsity men's hockey season has come to an end.

Conestoga's men battled through their season fighting for a playoff berth.

Their efforts were hampered by multiple injuries which resulted in the loss of players, several line and strategy changes and adjusting to fresh faces added to the team.

Throughout the season there have been several guys on the team who have lead the team through the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association season. These guys deserve recognition.

With the help of assistant coach Jason Snyder, the following is an end-of-season report card for the Conestoga hockey team.



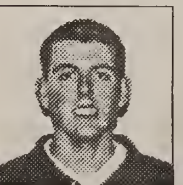
Stewart



Woodley



Galbraith



Taylor

Dave Longarini: A+

Dominated the ice defensively, played skillfully and aggressively and was the team's hardest hitter.

Dave Stewart: A

Played smart on the ice, was a great two-way player and a very hard worker.

Darrell Woodley: A+

Although Woodley was out for part of the season with a separated shoulder, he remained the team's top goal scorer due to his phenomenal stick handling and offensive powerhouse style.

Jon Suckert: B+

Suckert was not afraid of the physical game and gave his game 100 per cent.



Suckert



Gignac



Dave Galbraith: A-

Galbraith was the team's face-off man who made intelligent plays. He also displayed on-ice leadership.

Matt Turcotte: A

He had a mature presence on the ice, played all positions and was very much a character player.

Mike Traynor: A+

Traynor was a four-year veteran who brought experience to the team. He was a very talented power forward.

Jamie Taylor: B-

Taylor's goaltending got the Condors through the first half of their season as he was quick and agile. The rookie goalie played with an aggressive style.

Anthony Gignac: B+

Strongest in the second half of the game with his great glove hand. He didn't let much faze him.

Shaun Spence: B-

Spence took a hit to make the play as he gave 100 per cent to his game.



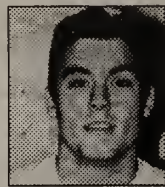
Spence



Turcotte



Traynor



Hickey

Jamie Hickey: C

This defensive player had a very hard shot and handled the puck well. He was a force on the ice when he wanted to be.

Craig McBrearty: B-

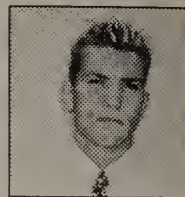
Took care of his end and was a solid two-way defenceman. He was not afraid of the physical game.



Wesseling

Adam Duce: C+

Duce played with a lot of heart and has greatly improved his game as he played nearly every position this season.



Kulau

Mike Rudney: C-

Rudney had a good attitude towards the game and was a tough competitor. Big things are expected from him next year.



Thede

Steve Wesseling: B-

Wesseling was a penalty killer who played a finesse game. His game has gotten better with experience.

Ian Kulau: B+

Although he didn't see much ice time, Kulau was a smart player who hustled every time he stepped on the ice, giving 110 per cent.



McBrearty

Greg Thede: A+

As team captain, Thede displayed great leadership and respectable qualities both on and off the ice. His defensive skills were strong and he has definitely been a great asset to the Condors.



Duce

Conestoga demolished in season-ending game

By Nicole Furlong

Conestoga's varsity hockey team's season came to an abrupt end on Feb. 18, as the players blew their chance at a playoff spot after being pummelled by Cambrian College 9-0.

The Condors went to Sudbury for their final game sitting in fourth spot in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association league, barely holding on to a playoff berth.

The hockey team left Sudbury out

of playoff contention.

Cambrian College sat one spot under Conestoga in fifth tied with Sault College. With this important win, they move into fourth to push Conestoga to the bottom of the totem pole.

The game seemed to run like clockwork with Cambrian scoring three goals per period, all about five minutes apart.

Although Conestoga tried to hold on to the game, they did not play their usual aggressive style, rack-

ing up only six penalty minutes in the game.

Anthony Gignac started in net for Conestoga, but after the first two goals in the first period were scored, Jamie Taylor was brought on the ice for the rest of the game.

To no avail, Cambrian nabbed the big win, leaving Conestoga behind.

Ironically, Conestoga took three more shots on net than Cambrian. Assistant coach Jason Snyder

said this was a disappointing outcome for his inaugural coaching year.

"Conestoga is a better team than what they displayed in this game," he said.

Snyder added there was a large number of first-year players on the team this year. He said next year the team will have more experience and better things are expected of them.

The loss could be attributed to the several key players missing for the

game. Among them were Steve Wesseling and Dave Galbraith who were out of town and Craig McBrearty who was out on suspension.

The Condors also lost forward Brent Shantz halfway through the first period due to a shoulder injury.

Snyder said all in all the guys played a good season with a lot of heart and determination. "Hopefully next year there will be a better outcome."

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